

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated December 26, 2007. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

As outlined above, claims 1-49 stand for consideration in this application, wherein claims 1, 2, 7, 24, and 29-31 are being amended. In addition, new claims 32-49 are hereby submitted for consideration.

All amendments to the application are fully supported therein, including page 7, lines 1-22, page 10 and line 27 – page 11, line 9. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

Formal Objections

Claims 1-7 and 24-27 were objected to on the grounds of informalities.

Claims 1, 2, 7, and 24 are being amended so as to meet the formal requirements. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections to claims 1-7 and 24-27 is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §101 Rejection

Claims 29-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 on the grounds of the claimed invention being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

As set forth above, the preambles of claims 29-31 are being amended so as to meet the requirements under 35 U.S.C. §101. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Prior Art Rejections

35 U.S.C. §102(b) Rejection

Each of claims 1-3 and 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Aravamudan et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,301,609 B1). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for the reasons set forth below.

According to the M.P.E.P. §2131, a claim is anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102 (a), (b), and (e) only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.

Claim 1

In a network system as recited in claim 1, a session control server comprises means for detecting a change in status information on a user of said one of said at least two terminal devices or on said one of said at least two terminal devices and means for notifying said presence server of an update request for the status information when the change in the status information is detected. The presence information control means provided in the presence server controls consistency in the notified update information. Therefore, even when an on-line notification that is sent regularly is not received in the talking status, inconsistency does not occur in the status information (page 26, line 21-26 of the specification).

The Examiner asserted that the session control server recited in claim 1 may read on an Instant Message (IM) server shown in Aravamudan. Applicants respectfully but strongly disagree.

Aravamudan shows that a client premise equipment (CPE) device continuously monitors for user interaction with a user interface of the CPE device, and relays changes in the state with the server. (col. 7, lines 49-52). However, the CPE device in Aravamudan is a user's terminal device such as a client's personal computer, a wired telephone or a screen phone, a wireless cellular phone or a screen phone, and a wireless or wired personal digital assistant (col. 3, lines, 31-37), NOT a session control server.

Furthermore, Aravamudan merely shows that the client CPE software generates a message indicating user's status, and conveys the message to the IM server, indicating the user's online presence and address (column 7, lines 3-9). Because the client CPE software is in the CPE device, which is the user's terminal device, it is apparent that the message indicating user's status is sent from the CPE device, which is the user's terminal device, NOT a session control server. Clearly, Aravamudan does not show or suggest explicitly or implicitly that the session control server notifies the presence server of an update request for the status information when the change in the status information is detected.

Furthermore, Aravamudan shows that the IM server interfaces with and services the client via the client's CPE and the client's proxy presence within the Communication Services Platform (CSP) (col. 7, lines 50-52). This may show that the Instant Message (IM)

server relays the information relating to the presence of the CPE device to the CSP. However, as set forth above, the client's software installed in the CPE, which is the user's terminal device, NOT the IM server, detects generates a message indicating user's status, and conveys the message to the IM server, indicating the user's online presence and address.

In sum, Aravamudan's IM server does not detect a change in status information on a user of one of at least two terminal devices or on the one of the at least two terminal devices and notifies the presence server of an update request for the status information when the change in the status information is detected. Thus, the session control server as recited in claim 1 cannot read on Aravamudan's IM server.

Therefore, Aravamudan's does not show every element recited in claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated by Aravamudan's.

Claim 2

Claim 2 includes substantially the same features as those of claim 1. As such, the arguments set forth above are equally applicable here. Claim 1 being allowable, claim 2 must also be allowable.

Claims 3, 6

As to dependent claims 3 and 6, the arguments set forth above with respect to independent claim 1 are equally applicable here. The corresponding base claim being allowable, claims 3 and 6 must also be allowable.

The First 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

Each of claims 4-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Aravamudan in view of Endress et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,895,554 B2). These rejections are respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth below.

As set forth above, Aravamudan fails to teach all the elements recited in claim 1, from which claims 4-5 depend. The secondary reference of Endress fails to provide any disclosure, teaching or suggestion that makes up for the deficiencies in Aravamudan. Therefore, at the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art could not and would not achieve all the features as recited in claim 1, from which claims 4-5 depend, by combining Endress with Aravamudan. Accordingly, claims 4-5 are not obvious in view of all the prior art cited.

The Second 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

Each of claims 7-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Aravamudan in view of Kammerer (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0205175 A1). These rejections are respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth below.

Claims 7, 8, 23, 24, and 28 include substantially the same features as those of claim 1. As set forth above, Aravamudan fails to teach all the elements recited in claim 1. The secondary reference of Kammerer fails to provide any disclosure, teaching or suggestion that makes up for the deficiencies in Aravamudan. Therefore, at the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art could not and would not achieve all the features as recited in claim 1 by combining Kammerer with Aravamudan. Accordingly, claims 7, 8, 23, 24, and 28, and their dependent claims 8-22, 24-27, and 29-31 are not obvious in view of all the prior art cited.

New claims 32-49

As to new dependent claims 32-49, the arguments set forth above with respect to independent claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 24, and 28 are equally applicable here. The corresponding base claim being allowable, claims 32-49 must also be allowable.

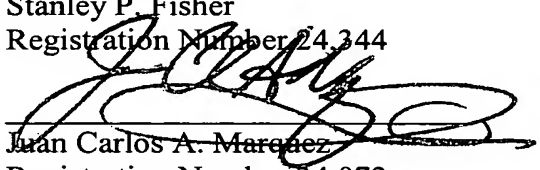
Conclusion

In light of the Amendments and Remarks, Applicants respectfully request early and favorable action with regard to the present application, and a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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